

In the Claims

Please amend claim 1 as follows:

1. (Twice amended) A mechanical dishwashing composition comprising:
- (A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from
 - (i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic monomer;
 - (ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;
 - (B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling ;

wherein said polymer is released into a cold, penultimate rinse cycle preceding a heated, final rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence;

wherein said vehicle of (B) is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said antiscaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device.

Please amend claim 3 as follows:

- B³
3. (Twice amended) The composition according to claim 1 wherein said vehicle is designed to further release at least an effective amount of the polymer into a heated final rinse of the dishwashing cycle to prevent scaling.

Please amend claim 12 as follows:

- B³
12. (Twice amended) A method for washing soiled dishes comprising charging a mechanical dishwashing composition to a wash liquor in a washing machine, the composition comprising:
- (A) an anti-scaling polymer formed from
 - (i) 50 to 99% by weight of the polymer of an olefinically unsaturated carboxylic acid monomer;
 - (ii) 1 to 50% of at least one monomer unit selected from the group consisting of copolymerizable sulfonated monomers, copolymerizable nonionic monomers and mixtures thereof;
 - (B) 0.1 to 99.9% of a vehicle designed to release at least an effective amount of the polymer to prevent scaling;

wherein said vehicle of B is defined as (1) the sum of all components forming said composition except for said anti-scaling polymer; or (2) an encapsulating material or other slow release protective chemical or device;

wherein said method comprises charging said dishwashing composition to a cold, penultimate rinse cycle preceding a heated, final rinse cycle of a dishwashing sequence.